



THE FORKSAKEN

J.T.C.



WHAT DID YOU DO THEN, DUKE?

THEN I TOOK A FORK & HELD DOWN THAT STEAK & CUT ME A BIG, JUICY PIECE WITH THE STEAK KNIFE. THEN I STUCK THAT PIECE WITH THE FORK & ATE IT!

WOW, YOU SURE TOOK CARE
OF THAT STEAK!



IT'S A MAN'S WORLD, BILLY JOE!
YA NEED UTENSILS TO SURVIVE!

LET'S GET SOME FOOD... WITH PROPER SILVERWARE, I COULD EAT A HORSE RIGHT NOW!

TEXON
GAS

RESTAURANT

FLY

MAN, LOOK WHAT'S ON THE BACK OF THAT TRUCK! THAT REALLY BUGS ME!

ONLY A TASTELESS PHILISTINE WOULD HAVE THAT UP THERE! . . . CUZ THAT TRUCKER IS NO PROPER KIND OF HIGHWAY GOURMAND!

SAY NO
TO
TENSILS

SA
TO
UT

YEP!

THAT A FACT,
DUKE?

HOWDY! I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT ME BEING A PHILISTINE!

UH... IS THIS YOUR RIG?

GULP!

IT SURE IS, LITTLE FELLA!

HOW'S ABOUT YOU BOYS JOINING ME FOR SUPPER?

UH, YEAH... THANKS!



TO EAT THE "FORKS'AKEN" WAY,
1ST, STUDY
THE GRUB!

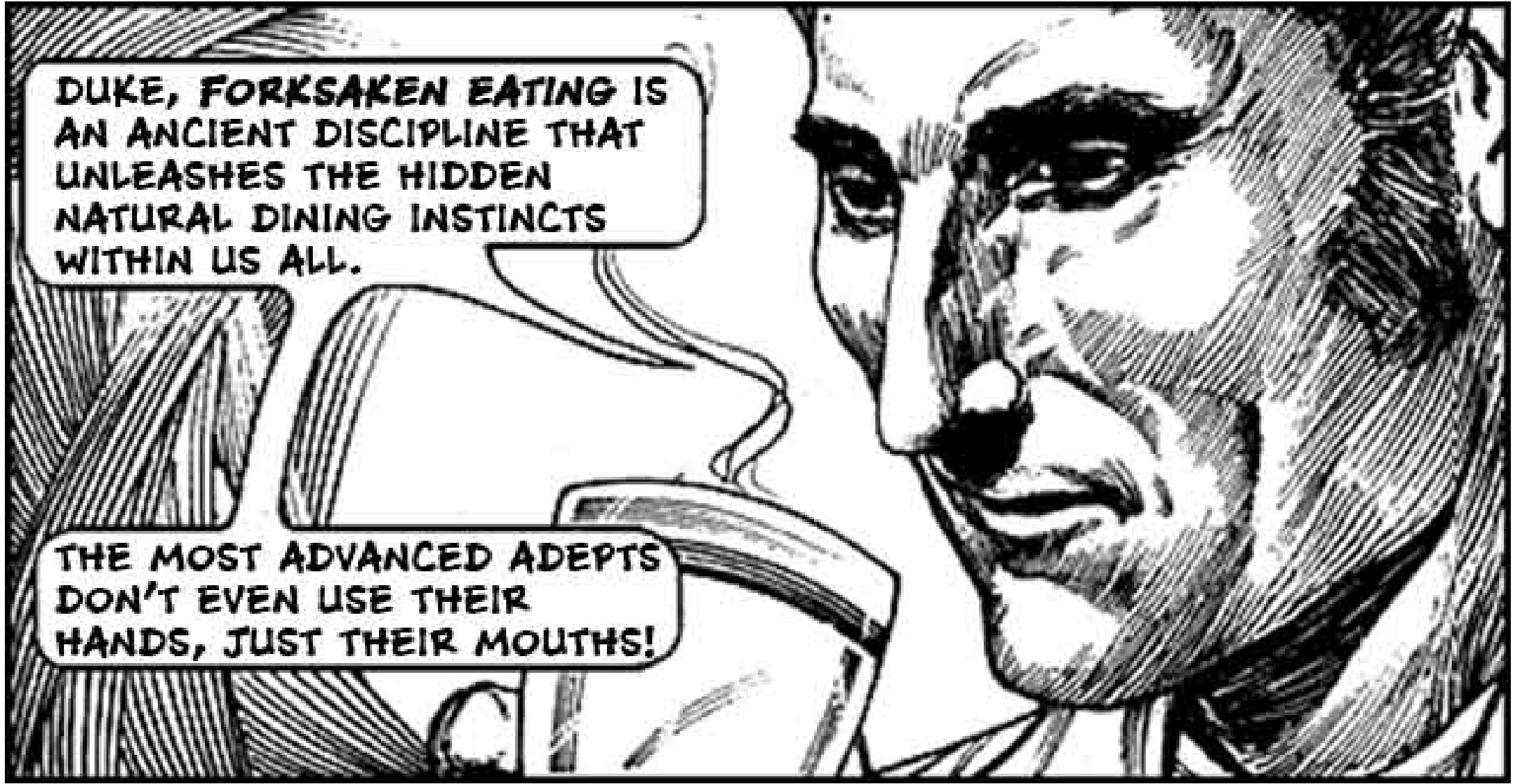
?

HOW'D I GET
INTO THIS?

LET'S START YOU FELLOWS OFF EASY, WITH
SIMPLE HAND FOOD. CHICKEN & CHEESE-
BURGERS.



IN MY BOOK, THIS IS A MESSY &
UNESTHETIC WAY TO EAT CHICKEN!



DUKE, FORKSOKEN EATING IS AN ANCIENT DISCIPLINE THAT UNLEASHES THE HIDDEN NATURAL DINING INSTINCTS WITHIN US ALL.

THE MOST ADVANCED ADEPTS DON'T EVEN USE THEIR HANDS, JUST THEIR MOUTHS!



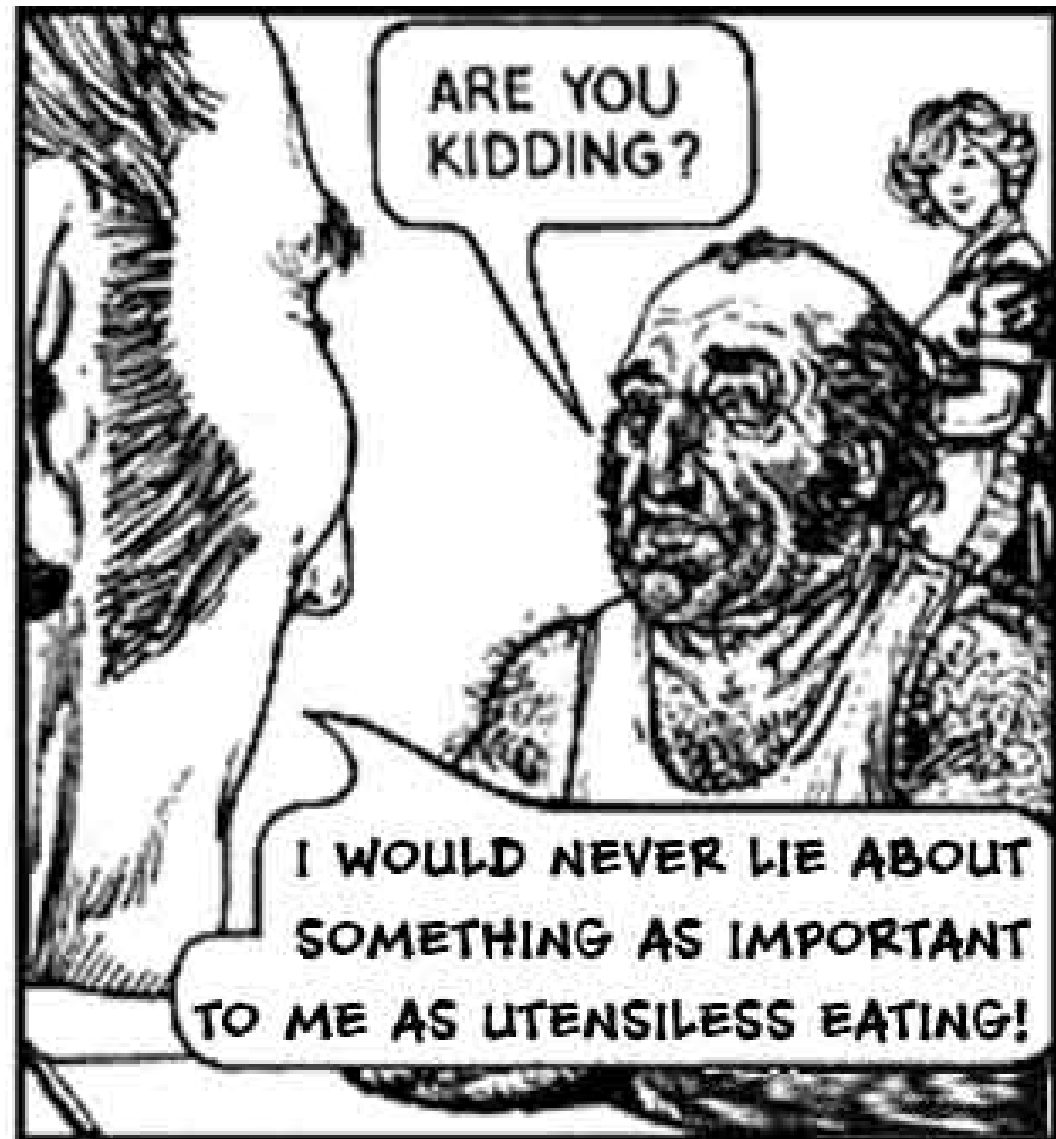
HEY! PIGGING OUT LIKE THAT IN A 3-STAR, MICHELIN-RATED RESTAURANT COULD GET AN HOMBRE THROWN OUT ON HIS ASS!

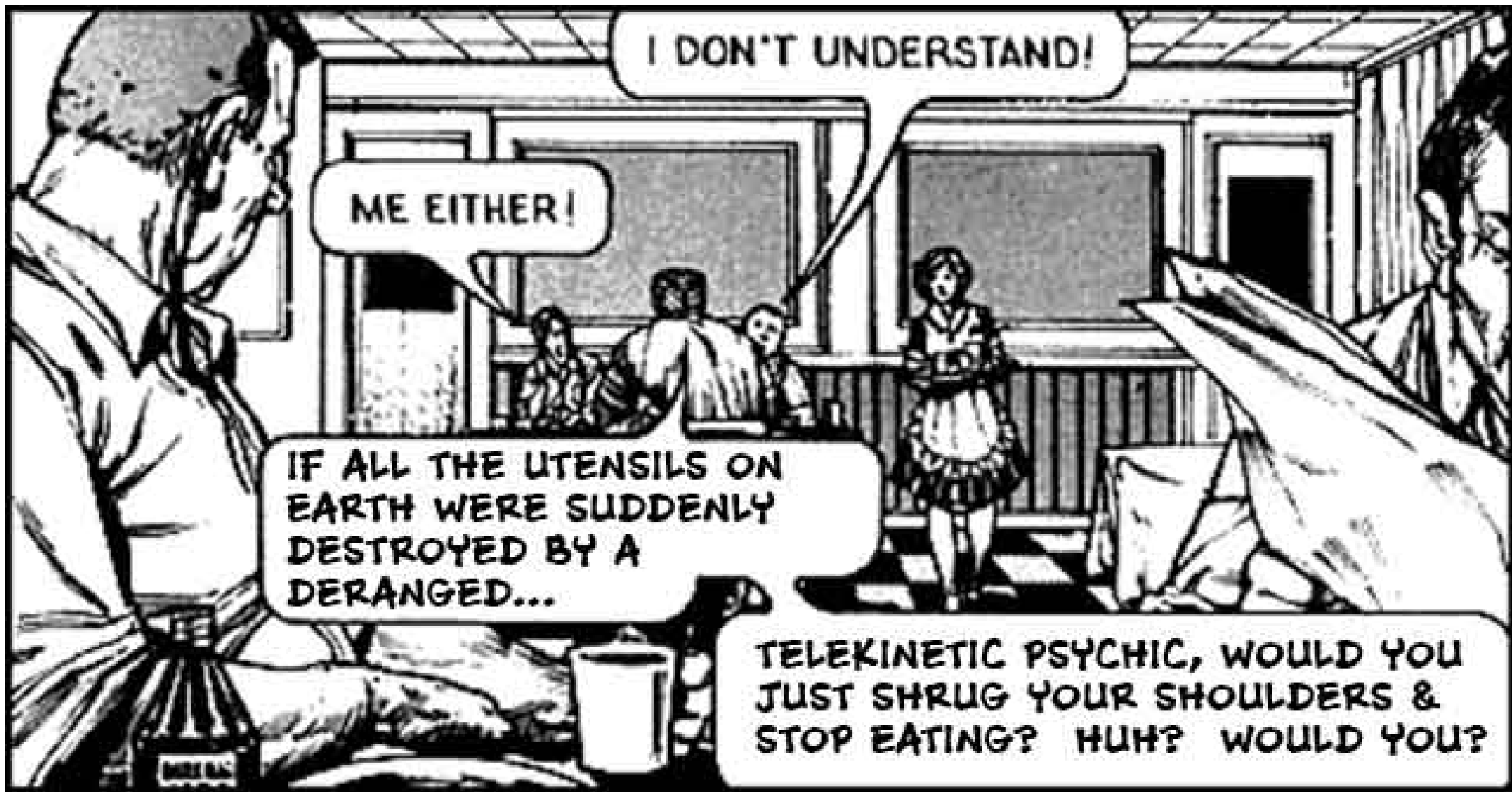
NOT IF THE MAITRE D'HOTEL HAPPENED TO BE FORKSAKEN HIMSELF!

ARE YOU HINTING THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF YOU "FORKSAKEN" PEOPLE IN THE GLOBAL CULINARY ARTS COMMUNITY?



The late, great chef James Beard was a secret Forksaken. Beard could suck up forty pounds of raw lard in single sitting, without using his hands and without so much as getting his massive chins greasy.






I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

ME EITHER!

IF ALL THE UTENSILS ON EARTH WERE SUDDENLY DESTROYED BY A DERANGED...

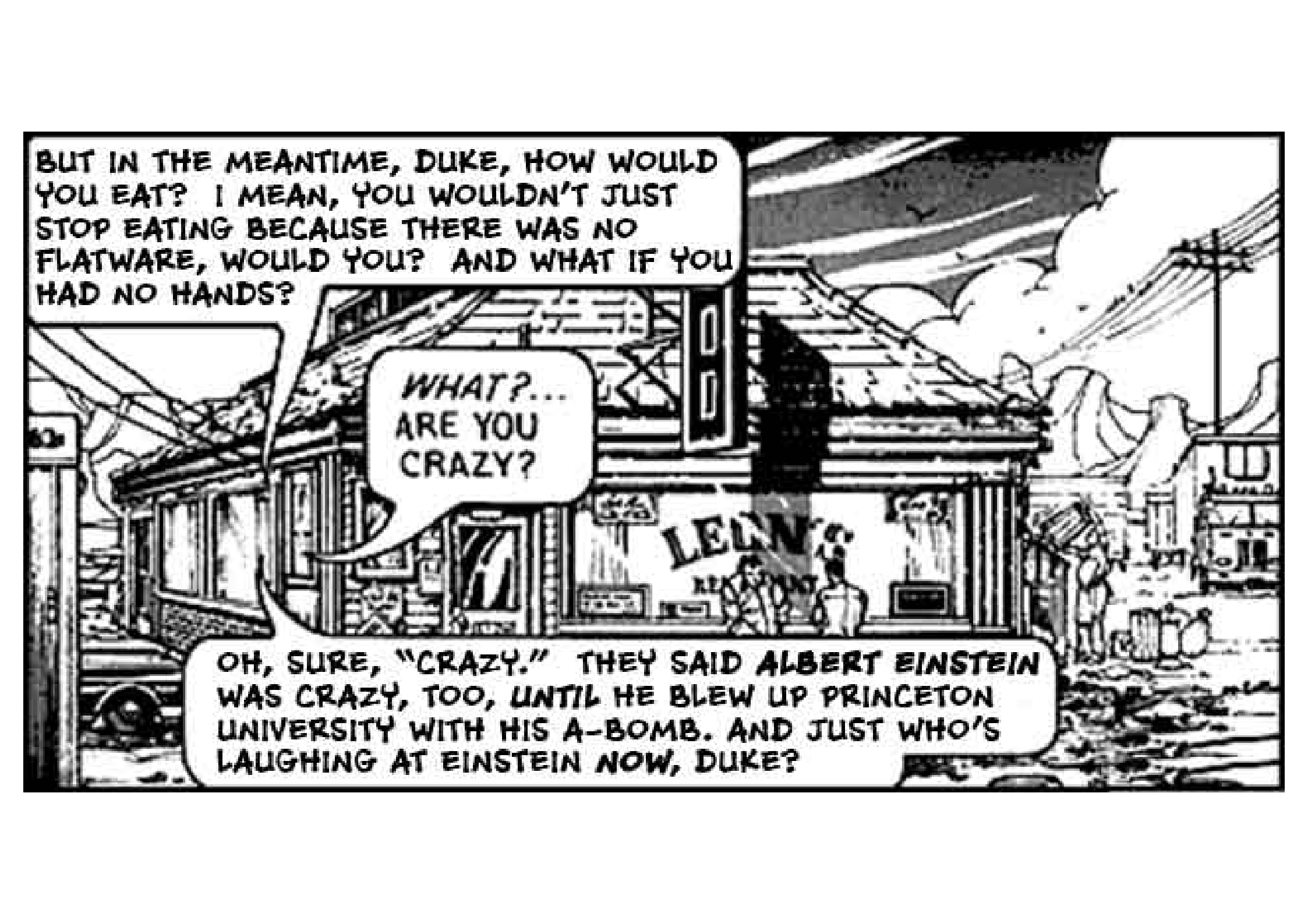
TELEKINETIC PSYCHIC, WOULD YOU JUST SHRUG YOUR SHOULDERS & STOP EATING? HUH? WOULD YOU?



YOU MEAN IF SOME
BASTARD LIKE URI
GELLER BENT EVERY
PIECE'A DINNERWARE
INTO USELESS
PRETZELS?

THAT'S RIGHT!

MAN, I'D KILL THE SON-OF-A-BITCH! I'D
TAKE A FIST-FULL OF HIS TWISTED UTENSILS AND
SHOVE THEM ALL THE WAY UP HIS WAZOO! THE
ASSHOLE'D NEVER, EVER, DO THAT TRICK AGAIN!



BUT IN THE MEANTIME, DUKE, HOW WOULD YOU EAT? I MEAN, YOU WOULDN'T JUST STOP EATING BECAUSE THERE WAS NO FLATWARE, WOULD YOU? AND WHAT IF YOU HAD NO HANDS?

WHAT?...
ARE YOU
CRAZY?

OH, SURE, "CRAZY." THEY SAID ALBERT EINSTEIN WAS CRAZY, TOO, UNTIL HE BLEW UP PRINCETON UNIVERSITY WITH HIS A-BOMB. AND JUST WHO'S LAUGHING AT EINSTEIN NOW, DUKE?

THE TRUTH IS, THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A FULLY FORKSAKEN STATE MAKES A HUMAN BEING IMMORTAL. AND THE CLUB MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES ALONE LET YOU LIVE LIKE A MOGUL!


WELL, STRANGER, YOU'VE CONVINCED ME, BUT HOW DO I LEARN THIS?

(PSSST! THAT WAITRESS! NOTICE HOW SHE'S BEEN NOSILY LISTENING IN?)

(YEAH, AND WHAT'S REALLY STRANGE IS HOW SHE WAS BEHIND ME IN THE LAST PANEL, AND HAS NOW TELEPORTED OVER BEHIND YOU! SHE'S ACTING WEIRD IN A QUANTUM KIND'A WAY!)

GULP!
AM I BEING THAT OBVIOUS?

THEN DON'T WORRY!
ANYONE WITH THOSE KINDS OF SKILLS MUST ALREADY BE A FORKSAKEN ADEPT!



HOLD IT A SECOND,
FELLA! I DO WANNA
LEARN THE SECRET
FORSAKEN ARCANA,
BUT I DON'T WANT
PEOPLE TO THINK
I'M A SLOB!

AS A GOURMAND,
I'VE GOT A PUBLIC
REPUTATION TO
PROTECT!

WHAT IS A "SLOB," REALLY, DUKE? ISN'T THE TERM MERELY A WAY TO DISPARAGE THOSE WHO LIFT THEMSELVES ABOVE THE SOCIETAL NORMS OF SHEEPLIKE HUMANITY? ARE YOU A SHEEP?



NO WAY!

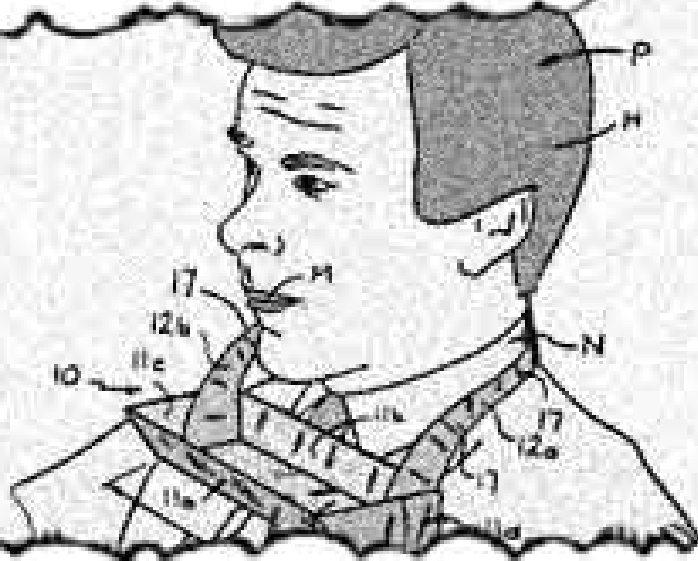
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT DUKE. I THINK YOU ARE READY ...

TO ADVANCE DIRECTLY TO THE MOST ADVANCED CIRCLE OF FORKSAKEN KNOWLEDGE, THE FULL, NO-HANDS FEEDING TECHNIQUE CALLED "TROUGHING."



AS SOON AS THAT NICE FORKSAKEN WAITRESS RETURNS WITH OUR MAIN COURSE, I'LL SHOW YOU BOYS HOW IT'S DONE. YOU CAN EASILY LEARN WHILE EMULATING MY TECHNIQUE.

THERE'S NO EXPERIENCE IN LIFE TO COMPARE TO THE FIRST TIME YOU TROUGH, DUKE. A FEW PEOPLE NEED SPECIAL TRAINING



EQUIPMENT THE FIRST TIME THEY TROUGH. BUT I HAVE A FEELING YOU TWO ARE NOT FELLOWS WHO NEED "TRAINING WHEELS"!

FORKSAKEN EATING IS ALSO ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND, AS IT SAVES ENERGY BY NOT WASHING UTENSILS!



AND IF YOU TROUGH, THEN THE ENERGY SAVINGS GET EVEN BIGGER. EVERYONE KNOWS HANDWASHING IS KILLING EARTH!



HERE'S YOUR MAIN COURSE!
MAY I "TROUGH" WITH YOU?

YOU BET!
WHY DON'T
YOU SIT
DOWN AND
JOIN US?



WHERE'S MARTHA?

AM I GOING NUTS, OR IS THAT
A TROUGHING I SEE?

NEXT DAY

I FIGURED OUT SOMETHING VERY DAMN IMPORTANT LAST NIGHT AT THAT NICE TRUCKERS' RESTAURANT, BILLY JOE...

WHAT'S THAT, DUKE?

ME TOO, DUKE...
ME TOO!

THE FORKSAKEN PATH IS DIVINE, ESPECIALLY THE TROUGHING. BUT I THINK PAYING \$500 TO CLEAN UP A CAFE SUCKS NOODLES!

FORKLESS FOREVER!

